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The Valley Star

VOLUME 58, ISSUE NO. 4 | OCTOBER 2, 2002 | LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Bush Policy Sparks Campus Teach-In

BY STERLING ANDREWS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Valley College students and faculty members will participate in a teach-in next week to discuss the Bush Administration initiative to go to war with Iraq.

The teach-in, scheduled for Oct. 9, will consist of a panel chosen by the Faculty Association to express views on the situation with Iraq. Each member of the panel will give a short speech before the floor is opened to the public for comments and questions. The purpose of the teach-in is for students and faculty to share information and opinions.

"This is the single most important decision this country will make in the next few weeks," said Leon Marzillier, faculty association president. "If we do go to war, many of our younger students will find themselves drafted. (This) is an issue of extreme educational importance."

The teach-in was suggested at the Academic Senate meeting Sept. 17 in lieu of the cancelled debate between Marzillier and political science instructor Dr. Anthony O'Regan. O'Regan spoke highly of the Bush Administration during his speech as a faculty representative at the Sept. 11 commemoration on campus and encouraged those in attendance to support the initiative to go to war with Iraq.

After the ceremony, Marzillier challenged O'Regan to a debate, noting that even though O'Regan was chosen by the Associated Student Union to represent the faculty at the event, the views expressed by Dr. O'Regan in his speech were "his and his alone, and (did) not reflect the position of the faculty." O'Regan accepted the debate challenge but withdrew shortly after Marzillier announced to the faculty that a debate would be held, accusing Marzillier of personally attacking him in the announcement.

"It certainly was not my intention to attack him," said Marzillier in an e-mail to the faculty and staff. "However, one cannot argue with another person's feelings." Marzillier then publicly apologized to O'Regan, but

See **'TEACH-IN'** on p. 5

STAR PHOTO/TAMMY ABBOTT
Jennifer Duke demonstrates a "Saung Gauk," a rare Burmese harp, at "World Harp Traditions" at the campus music recital hall on Sept. 26.
SEE PAGE 3

Custodians Trashed By Complaints

BY BEN JAURON
NEWS EDITOR

Every semester at Valley College, trash cans overflow and litter peppers the campus, snacks and sodas left behind by students in classrooms leads to ant and cockroach problems, and campus restrooms reek of urine and abound with soggy toilet paper. The custodial staff faces a barrage of complaints that range from human waste in the restrooms to chalk rails in classrooms that aren't cleaned. Most of these complaints are filed by faculty.

"I think the campus is filthy," said Jack Sterk, professor of speech communications. "It's quite clear that there has been a huge deterioration of aesthetic cleanliness on campus in the past two years. I come in some days and it looks horrid."

Custodians are responsible for campus cleanliness, and these complaints may take the form of "work and service orders." The college's plant facilities staff receives roughly 45 orders a day, according to facilities manager David Ogney. There are approximately 35 custodians divided into three shifts that tend Valley College's 104 acres. They handle numerous campus maintenance matters, including raking leaves, emptying trash cans and moving filing cabinets.

"You name it, we do it," said operations manager Charles Long. "We just don't have the personnel to keep up with the demand of the student body. We're never fully staffed, and we're expected to do the same amount of work with less people."

The amount of people at Valley has grown substantially over the years, while the number of custodians has remained the same, according to Long and Ogney. Although the plant facilities budget has increased, it hasn't kept pace with the growing demand. "The budget is always in a catch-up mode,"

See **'CUSTODIANS'** on p. 5

Teachers' Union Ratifies New Contract

BY BEN JAURON
NEWS EDITOR

The Valley College faculty's union recently approved a proposal giving them a more than three percent raise and other benefits as part of a new contract through 2005. The measure passed by a 95 percent margin, with 1,501 faculty members district-wide voted in favor and 78 opposed.

"It's an agreement that I feel very proud of," said Dr. Susan Carleo, vice president of academic affairs and management representative. "Both teams worked very hard."

Other highlights of the new contract include the ability for faculty members to use accumulated sick leave to care for a loved one and instructors will now be paid the equivalent for summer and winter sessions as they are for spring and fall semesters. Furthermore, classes taught during the intersessions will count towards a full-time instructor's annual obligation of teaching 12-18 units per week, if it can be arranged with department chairs and administration. In previous contracts, teaching summer and winter classes was considered outside of the obligation.

Some within the union, the Los Angeles Faculty Guild local 1521 of the American Federation of Teachers, have criticisms of the new collective bargaining agreement, despite the mandate. Valley College's union representative Joanne Waddell said that the new agreement may force smaller departments such as economics, sociology and journalism to join larger ones such as mathematics, English and foreign language.

> "I was personally opposed to (the new agreement) because I saw it as a management ploy."
>
> - Joanne Waddell

There are 37 departments at Valley, ranging from American cultures to theatre arts. These departments are funded according to their Fulltime Equivalent Faculty number (five courses equals one FTEF). As part of a management proposal supported by the union, departments with an FTEF of less than eight stand to merge with the larger departments, though a finalized plan has yet to be determined by the academic senate. Roughly seven departments at Valley are in this situation, according to Carleo.

"I was personally opposed to (the new agreement) because I saw it as a management ploy,"

See **'UNION'** on p. 5

Library Resources Expanding

BY ARLENE MEJIA
STAR REPORTER

The Valley College library has installed 13 new computers and is offering free library research workshops to interested students.

In the near future, students will be able to research and type their reports there, according to library sources.

The one-hour, hands-on workshops are designed to teach students the basic skills needed to locate books, scholarly journals and popular magazine articles. Held twice monthly in the periodicals room, the workshops include demonstrations on the proper use of the Los Angeles Community College District online catalog and electronic databases. Internet research techniques are also discussed.

Workshop dates are Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday Oct. 23 from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., Thursday, November 7 from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., Thursday November 14 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., and Tuesday, December 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

"Many students don't know how to use the online catalog," said head librarian David May. They're reluctant to use it or ask for help."

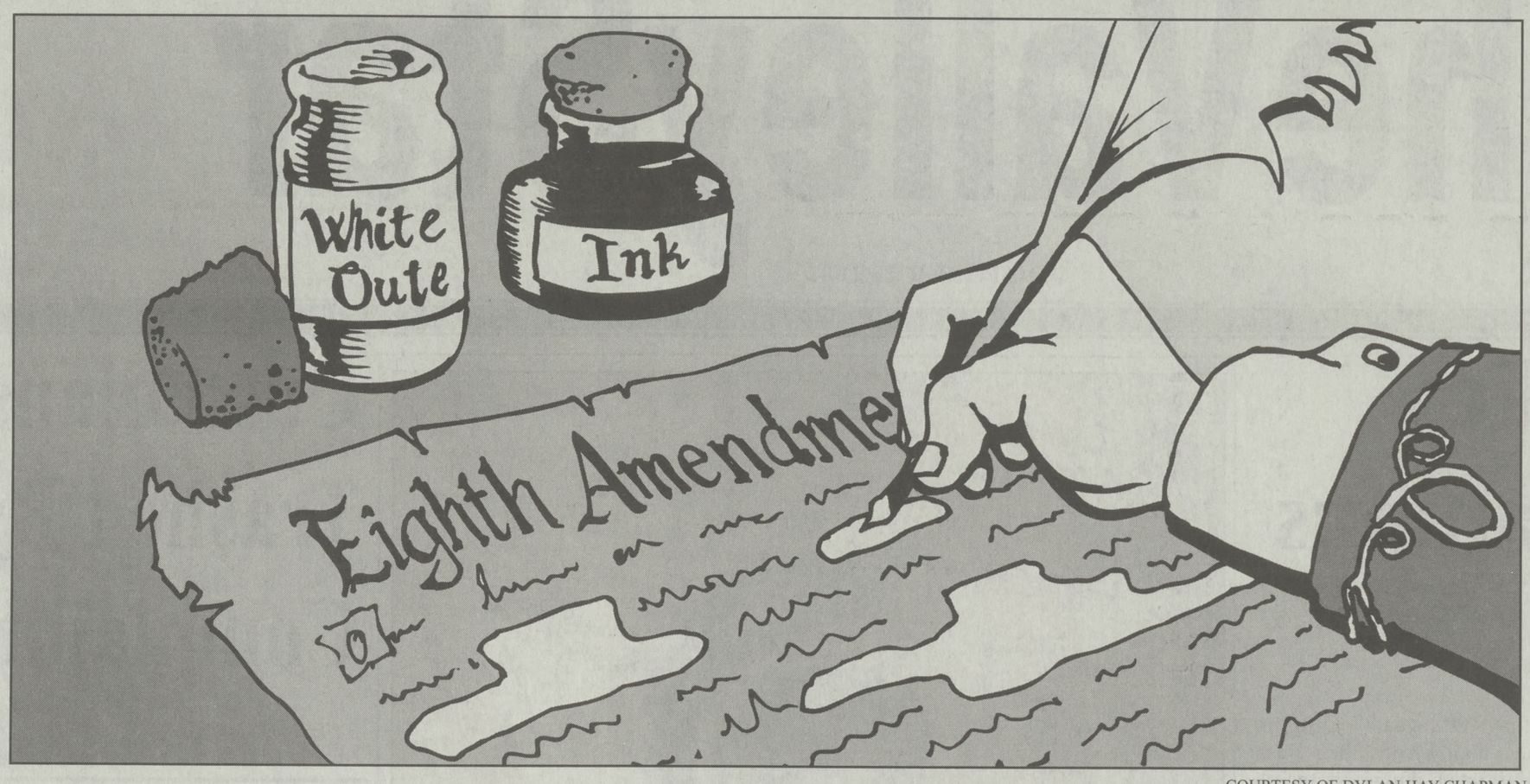
Some instructors bring their classes to the library to show them what the library offers, but most students do not have basic library skills. Librarians have asked teachers to offer extra credit for students who attend any of the workshops.

"The information received from a workshop will not only help you to be successful in your college career, but also throughout your life," said reference librarian and instructor Xiaoyang Liu, adding that knowing how to find and choose the best information for a research paper can make a big difference in the grade a student receives.

STAR PHOTO/TAMMY ABBOTT
Plant facilities worker Amos Hayes gets tools needed to work inside Monarch Hall.

2 Opinion

The Death Penalty: Deterrent or Disgrace?



COURTESY OF DYLAN HAY-CHAPMAN

BY STERLING ANDREWS

STAR PHOTO/SALVADOR AGUILAR

We live in a world with people who do horrible things. We can put men into space, we can read their minds with machines, we can teach computers to think for themselves, but as sure as we cannot prevent the human population from rising, we cannot prevent men from murdering one another.

Why is it, then, with all the advances our society has made, that we still feel the primitive need to take the lives of life-takers? We do not steal from thieves, we do not rape rapists; and although the punishments that those criminals receive may inflict their own crime upon them in some obscure way (like taking a stretch of freedom from a man who has stolen a car), capital punishment is the only hint of "an eye for an eye" mentality left in western civilization, and the United States is the only western democracy that still practices it.

Personally, I find the idea appalling. It is not logical, it is not necessary, it is not just. It does not deter criminals, and it is both socially and economically damaging. But, worst of all, we do not have to kill criminals to keep them from repeating their crimes; we kill them because we want to.

Since 1976, when the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the 1972 decision that capital punishment is a violation of the Eighth Amendment, nearly 4,000 people have been sent to death row. More than 10 percent of those convictions were proven

See **'ANDREWS'** on p. 4

COURTESY OF CATHLEEN KENNEDY

BY CATHLEEN KENNEDY

I feel that capital punishment is just. When someone takes another's life, "an eye for an eye" should prevail. Murderers should not have the luxury of getting life in prison.

"The death penalty is a warning," poet Hyman Barshay said. "Just like a lighthouse throwing its beams out to sea. We hear about the shipwrecks, but we do not hear about the ships the lighthouse guides safely on their way. We do not have proof of the number of ships it saves, but we do not tear the lighthouse down."

The death penalty debate in the U.S. has been going on for years. Of the 50 states, 38 states have death penalty laws, and public opinion polls in the last decade have indicated the majority of Americans favor capital punishment.

Opponents think that execution and murder are identical. They believe that if two acts have the same ending or result, then those acts are morally equivalent. But is the legal taking of property to satisfy a debt the same as auto theft? Both result in loss of property. Are kidnapping and legal incarceration the same? Both involve imprisonment against one's will. Is killing in self-defense the same as capital murder? Both end in taking human life. And we could go on with more absurd questions. Opponents' flawed logic and moral confusion mixed with their factual arguments often leave them with an absence of reality.

Researching crime reports and different studies for this column made me sick, disgusted and amazed at what goes on in the world. Yes, the death penalty is

See **'KENNEDY'** on p.4

editorial

As community college students we may have at one time or another wished we were attending a four-year university. Unfortunately, circumstances are such that we do not have those opportunities at this time. Does that make us less fortunate?

If we listen to some talk show hosts or television shows, we may feel inferior to university students. Adam Carolla of "Loveline", the popular radio show on KROQ, sometimes asks callers who he thinks are stupid if they attend, or attended junior college. On the hit television show "Frasier" several of the characters have made disparaging remarks, ranging from the ease of getting into community colleges to the intelligence of the students who attend.

Does this negative attitude towards community college students hold any truth? We could ask Eileen Collins, a NASA pilot. She attended Corning

See **'EDITORIAL'** on p. 4

letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

There is something bothering me. Two editions ago The Valley Star proudly proclaimed the "We Are Moving On." Then the accompaning article discussed how the issues surrounding 9/11 would not be addressed as a return to "normalcy." This makes the 9/18 issue seem a little silly in it's (sic) expenditure of space "reporting" on the memorials and rememberances for 9/11 doesn't it? Are we moving on or not ?

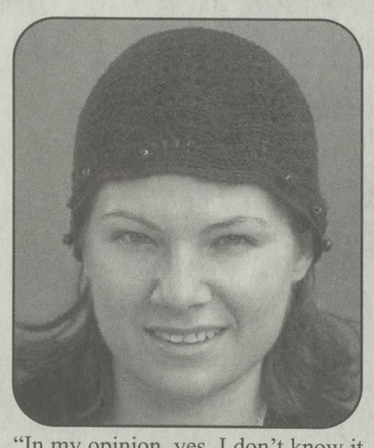
By the way, The Star seems to spend quite a bit of it's available space for large headlines and big pictures. Is the art of wordsmithing dead?

Sincerely,
Todd Jasmin

Campus View

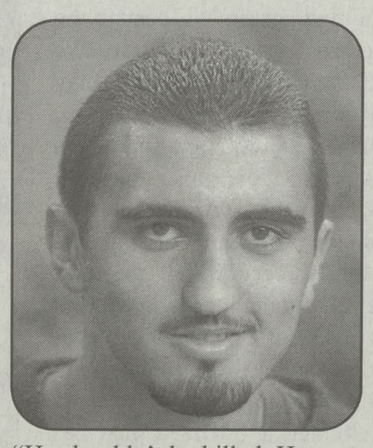
Should David Westerfield receive the death penalty?

BY STERLING ANDREWS AND BEN JAURON



"In my opinion, yes. I don't know it it's right or wrong, but all children are innocent. He deserves to die."

Annie Faruku
Theatre Arts

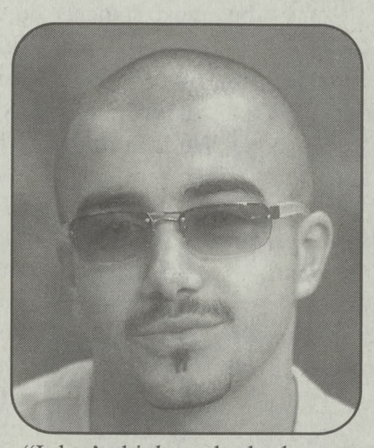


"He shouldn't be killed. He should be sent to jail for the rest of his life so he can be tortured."

Hovik Kasamanyan
Kinesiology

"Yes, I mean, he raped a little girl and killed her. Whoever does that should be executed."

Melina Yesayeva
Undeclared



"I don't think anybody deserves the death penalty. (Westerfield) just deserves to get tortured."

Shavo Alajajyan
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Valley Life 3

campus scene

3 **11:30 a.m.** - Sarkis Baltaian, Piano - Music Recital Hall

7 **3:30 p.m.** -Museum Lecture - Cafeteria Conference Room

Eating on the Cheap

BY SHARI SOLLARS
STAR REPORTER

This article is the first of a three-part series giving students advice on how to eat well without spending a fortune.

Prior to my current incarnation as a college student, I worked for many years as a professional chef in the San Francisco Bay Area, so I am pretty picky when it comes to food. You might think that having the low income of a student would preclude having the high standards of a gourmet, but it is actually not that difficult to eat well on a tight budget. My lucky roommate can attest that the meals I cook at home are usually like something I would make at one of the fancy restaurants I've worked in.

We are fortunate to live in California- most of the nation's produce is grown right here in our own backyard, which makes it more fresh at the market and less expensive for us. One of the best outlets in the Valley for produce and Hispanic specialty foods is El Cubano Market.

The first thing you notice as you walk up to El Cubano market (on Victory Boulevard at Tujunga Avenue in North Hollywood) is the smell of fresh tamales wafting seductively towards you; they are made fresh daily and sold hot right outside the front door (priced from 99¢ to $3.99 each). Other south-of-the-border specialties available at the market include fresh pupusas and empanadas. Just inside the front door you can buy fresh fruit smoothies, breads and pastries, and ice cream cones.

Every time I shop at El Cubano I feel like a millionaire; I walk out with several bags of groceries but rarely spend more than $10. The fresh foods (fruits, vegetables, and meats) are generally much less expensive than at Ralph's or Von's and of equal quality and selection. The crowded aisles are small and filled with savvy shoppers; most customers, as well as employees, are mainly Spanish-speaking.

I head directly for my favorite area: the produce section. El Cubano has a vast array of fruits, vegetables, and herbs at great prices. I did a comparison between Ralph's (on Vineland Avenue at Magnolia Avenue in North Hollywood) and El Cubano and was shocked at the huge difference in prices: Fresh yellow or white corn is 99¢ for

See **'EATING CHEAP'** on p. 5

Have a Harp

BY TAMMY ABBOTT
STAR REPORTER

Harpist Jennifer Duke took her audience on a magnificent tour of "World Harp Traditions" Thursday, displaying examples of fine instruments from many cultures and delighting listeners with her consummate skill and knowledge.

The elegant percussion instruments on display were crafted from beautiful materials such as ivory, copper and fine-grained woods. The harps reflected the artistry of people in the Congo, Burma, Spain, Ireland and the U.S., to name a few.

Duke performed traditional and contemporary songs from many lands, including a beautiful Burmese song played on a very rare saung gauk, and a soulful version of "Ebb Tide" played on a Western pedal harp.

A professional musician for 20 years, Duke has worked and studied with the best, complimenting orchestras supporting operas and ballet companies, as well as providing traditional Western European music in solo concerts.

STAR PHOTO/TAMMY ABBOTT
Jennifer Duke displays one of her exotic harps during the magnificent tour of "World Harp Traditions" Thursday Sept. 26.

Movie Review: *The Tuxedo*

BY RICK POWELL
STAR REPORTER

The Tuxedo has its tongue lodged so firmly inside of its cheek that it just might burst through the skin. Wonderfully comical and very aware of what it is, Jackie Chan's new film bombards the viewer with kicks, punches and laughs as quickly as a $2 million bionic tux will allow.

Jackie Chan portrays Jimmy Tong, cab driver and loser. Lacking self confidence in every area, Jimmy's saving grace is that he just happens to be one hell of a cabbie. This skill helps to land him in the employ of Clark Devlin (Jason Isaacs), sexy guy super-spy. While at the drive-thru of a fast food restaurant, Devlin and Jimmy are attacked, leaving the super-spy seriously injured, and the chauffer with the task of completing Devlin's latest assignment.

Well, at least this time he's not rescuing his uncle. Jackie Chan still has what it takes to make an audience smile. Ninety minutes of his just shy of bilingual antics are all that's necessary to lift the clouds from a lackluster day. His co-star, Jennifer-Love Hewitt is actually a good foil for Chan; she's rather witty in her role as Delilah Blane, the clueless spy wonder.

Hewitt has only two on-screen responsibilities: sex and sass. Sexiness she has in droves, and sass is in her corner, but it only serves her persona in the film. Where Chan's inherent wackiness propels him, a screenplay filled with witty banter keeps Hewitt a key player.

The duo's motivation is to capture an odd-ball character, foil his master plan (to procure a monopoly over Earth's fresh water supply), and send the profits of his bottled water company to heaven and back. Sound asinine? It is, very much like the film's opening shot: a picturesque woodland stream leading to a water bottling plant. As beautiful as the scene is, one can't help but notice the deer urinating in the stream. From the fifteen second mark on, the tone of the movie is set.

Sit back and enjoy The Tuxedo. It's a rare film for its genre; it doesn't insult the audience but welcomes it -- presses it up to its bosom and makes everyone forget they were just swindled out of nine dollars.

Playing It Safe

BY DEP. RANDY TUINSTRA
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

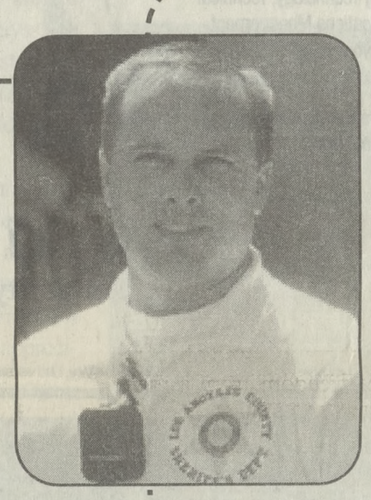
As you walk around the L.A. Valley College campus, you will notice all of the different types of bushes, flowers & mature trees throughout. It's quite a beautiful sight. If you walk around the campus at night, you will see the same foliage in a different way…kind of frightening.

Although the campus has new lighting all around, the shadows that the trees cast over the walkways of the campus can give one an unsettling feeling as you walk through that area.

You can dial *80 from any campus payphone for direct access to the Campus Sheriff's Office free of charge.

AN UPDATE FROM THE LAST ARTICLE ABOUT SECURING YOUR VEHICLE & PERSONAL ITEMS:

- A vehicle was found with the driver's door open in a parking space.
- Another vehicle was left with the windows down and the key in the ignition.
- One vehicle was parked with the doors locked and the engine was running.
- One student's cell phone was stolen as it was left on a picnic table while purchasing vending items.



STAR PHOTO/SALVADOR AGUILAR

★ Be aware of your surroundings (always look around)

★ Walk with a friend, or better yet – a group (buddy system)

★ If you walk alone, stay close behind another group (close enough to hear you yell if needed).

★ Talk on your cell phone to a friend or family member as you walk to your car, so you would have an instant call for help if needed.

★ Hold your car keys in your strong hand. It's a good tool if you have to strike a would-be attacker.

★Have your ride home meet you at the closest location to your last classroom for pick-up.

★Call the Sheriff's office for an escort. We will get there as quick as possible depending how busy the campus is

Oh Give Me a Phone, Where Security Roams

BY JACQUI BROWN

When I recently signed up for a night class, I immediately headed off to the south gym to enroll in a self defense class. It's incredibly dark and creepy on campus late at night after most classes finish, and I don't always get the best parking spot. So when class is over, I dig out my cel phone, brace my nerves, try to remember how to gouge someone's eyeballs out with my bare hands and head bravely to my car in one of the sparsely lit parking lots.

COURTESY OF SUSIE SPECK MAYOR

It is reported that 1.7 percent of female college students nationwide have been raped. The survey, conducted one year by the National Institute of Justice and Justice Statistics, said the numbers would have been higher if the survey had been conducted for the full four-year period in which most students attend. Acquaintance rape, also known as date rape, which often goes unreported would also increase these statistics.

After surveying approximately 100 students around campus, only six were aware of the *80 feature on campus telephones. The feature connects callers directly to campus police. The caller ID at the sheriff's station identifies the location and an officer is dispatched.

Unfortunately, not all these phones are well lit. Because they are handicap accessible, most are low, wall-mounted units, with no visible signs to identify their location. Valley is in the process of installing 110 new ten-foot light poles and retrofitting approximately 50 exterior wall-mounted light fixtures in the bungalow areas, to be completed by mid-May. With all the money received for campus renovations, it would make sense to have well-lighted phone booths or signs directing you to the nearest phone.

The ultimate goal would be implementation of the blue-light system used at Pierce College and CSUN. Blue-light telephones are located throughout the campus and identified by a blue light. When picked up, the caller is put in direct contact with campus police, or the patrolling officers. As a precautionary measure, some schools like CSUN post campus-wide notices within 24 hours if a crime has occurred that could affect other students while attending school.

I recently spoke with a teacher from a local elementary school, who is continuing her education at CSUN. Because of her job, night classes are her only option. She said she felt safe attending night classes at that campus because of the safety precautions the school had taken to ensure just that, her safety.

"My last class of the evening ends at ten o'clock," she said. "It's pretty dark by then, but I don't worry, because when I open the door to leave, they have escorts outside most of the classrooms. They will either walk you, or drive you back to your vehicle, or if you live in the dorms, they'll drive you home. And the cool thing is, they have walkie-talkies and let the campus security office know where they are headed and how many people they are escorting. It takes the fear out of enrolling in night classes."

Most schools have on-site security or police facilities, but with a very limited staff. Valley, which sits on 5 acres, has a maximum of five officers on campus during the day but only two during the later shifts. Although there have been no reports of major offenses, there still is a need to update the security system and adding this during the current construction would be an efficient way to handle it.

According to campus police it is legal to carry pepper spray, as long as you take responsibility for the aftermath of its use. There are simple steps you can take to help keep yourself safe. First and foremost, stay away from unlit areas if you are attending night classes and make sure you know where your class is ahead of time. Consult your catalogue for the map of the campus. Locate the pay phones nearest your classes. Try to walk with a buddy to class and to your car, or have someone give you a ride to and from the class. During the day, don't leave your things unattended in class or elsewhere. Keep your car locked and keep anything of value out of sight.

More importantly, don't put yourself in an awkward position. Be familiar with the campus, with which parking lots are well lit, with where the pay phones are. Look around. Stay aware. Be prepared.

'Andrews' *continued from page 2*

to be wrongful, 75 percent convicted were of a minority race, and in some states, nearly 20 percent of the men on death row are severely mentally handicapped, according to the Death Row Information Center. The United States has also executed the highest number of child offenders in the world – 14 in the last 12 years.

The only logical reason behind executing criminals is deterrence, yet the murder rate has spiked dramatically since the death penalty was reinstated, as has the number of capital convictions and executions. In a survey released by the New York Times in the spring of 2000, it was found that homicide rates in non-death penalty states are 48 to101 percent lower than in states with the death penalty. These statistics do not support any deterrence theories; in fact, it could even be said that the existence of capital punishment encourages murder by validating the taking of human life.

And, if that fundamentally flawed attitude toward the value of human life is not enough to sway those who are still pro-death penalty, the tired argument of cost is still valid. Studies have shown that it costs nearly three times more to sentence a criminal to death and carry out an execution as it does to keep that prisoner locked up for life. Florida and Texas, two states with the highest concentration of death-row inmates, spend $2 to $3 million per execution. The state of California alone could save nearly $100 million annually by abolishing the death penalty. This is money that could be better spent, according to Sacramento law officials, on law enforcement, rehabilitation, and the improvement of existing prisons.

The most disturbing thing about capital punishment, however, is the actual execution. Although emergency medical technicians are required to be present at the execution, a medical doctor is only called if needed. The executions themselves are administered by prison guards, not doctors. In the last ten years, there have been 34 botched executions – 22 resulted from improper administering of lethal injections and 10 from malfunction or improper preparation of the electric chair. Although the spasms and gasps of recipients of botched lethal injections are enough for prison officials to shield witnesses from viewing the event, the most appalling accounts of botched executions come from witnesses to electrocutions, most of which report blood spurting from under the hoods of prisoners and four to six-inch flames bursting from their heads. The following is an excerpt from a University of Florida study on botched executions: "April 22, 1983. Alabama. John Evans. Electrocution● After the first jolt of electricity, sparks and flames erupted from the electrode attached to Evans's leg. The electrode burst from the strap holding it in place and caught on fire. Smoke and sparks also came out from under the hood in the vicinity of Evans's left temple. Two physicians entered the chamber and found a heartbeat. The electrode was reattached to his leg, and another jolt of electricity was applied. This resulted in more smoke and burning flesh. Again, the doctors found a heartbeat. Ignoring the pleas of Evans's lawyer, a third jolt of electricity was applied. The execution took 14 minutes and left Evans's body charred and smoldering."

If that is not cruel and unusual, I don't know what is.

'Editorial' *continued from page 2*

Community College. Or maybe we could ask Robert Gammage, Texas Supreme Court Justice, who attended Del Mar College. These individuals began at a two-year college and transferred to a university. The list continues and proves a point; you don't have to start your academic career at a prestigious four-year university to be successful.

Did Adam Carolla research the success rate of community college students before publicly denouncing them? If he had he would have discovered that many students graduate and transfer to four-year universities to obtain a BA or postgraduate degree. He would have also found that many students obtain their AA or complete a training program and then lead successful lives.

These negative views have no bearing over what we are trying to accomplish with our academic careers.

The fact that we do not have the opportunity to begin at a four-year university does not mean our quality of education is inferior. According to several studies, most educators at community colleges have the same credentials as those at universities.

We work hard. We attend our classes and study our books. We have limitless opportunities that come from our higher education. Just because we did not begin at the four-year university does not mean we can not finish there. The benefits of community college give us the chance to have the education we always wanted.

So, the next time the character Niles on "Frasier" says "How could she like him? The man has community college written all over him," we will know that the man is an intelligent, hard-working, and successful individual.

'Kennedy' *continued from page 2*

a touchy subject. However, if something like this happened to a friend or a family member you would want justice to be served.

Imposition of the death penalty is extraordinarily rare. Since 1967, there has been one execution for every 1,600 murders. There are at least 28 legal procedures necessary in reaching a death sentence. The U.S. Supreme Court and most death penalty supporters see executions as the appropriate punishment for certain criminals who have committed specific crimes.

The death penalty saves lives. By executing murderers, you prevent them from murdering again. In 1978, six percent of murderers paroled were arrested for murder again within six years of their release. Of the roughly 52,000 state prison inmates serving time for murder in 1984, an estimated 810 had previously been convicted of murder and had killed 821 persons following their previous murder convictions. Executing each one of these inmates would have saved 821 lives.

Thirty years of academic studies have revealed a general deterrent effect, meaning that there is statistical proof that executions produce fewer murders. One study showed that criminals, by a 5:1 ratio, believed that capital punishment was a significant enough deterrent to prevent them from murdering their victims.

Suppose all murderers died instantly upon murdering – then murderers would kill only if they wished to die themselves. Murder/suicide is a very small component of all murders. If capital punishment was applied to our worst criminals, it is logical to say that the death penalty would be a significant deterrent and many lives would be saved. The higher the rate of execution the greater deterrent effects.

Death penalty opponents spend millions of dollars and countless hours fighting the legal execution of at most, 56 of our worst human rights violators per year. Executions save lives, period. Our choice is to spare the lives of the murderers, and to sacrifice the lives of the innocent or to execute those who murder and thereby, spare the lives of the innocent. You choose.

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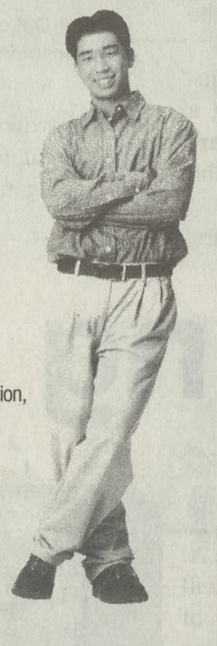

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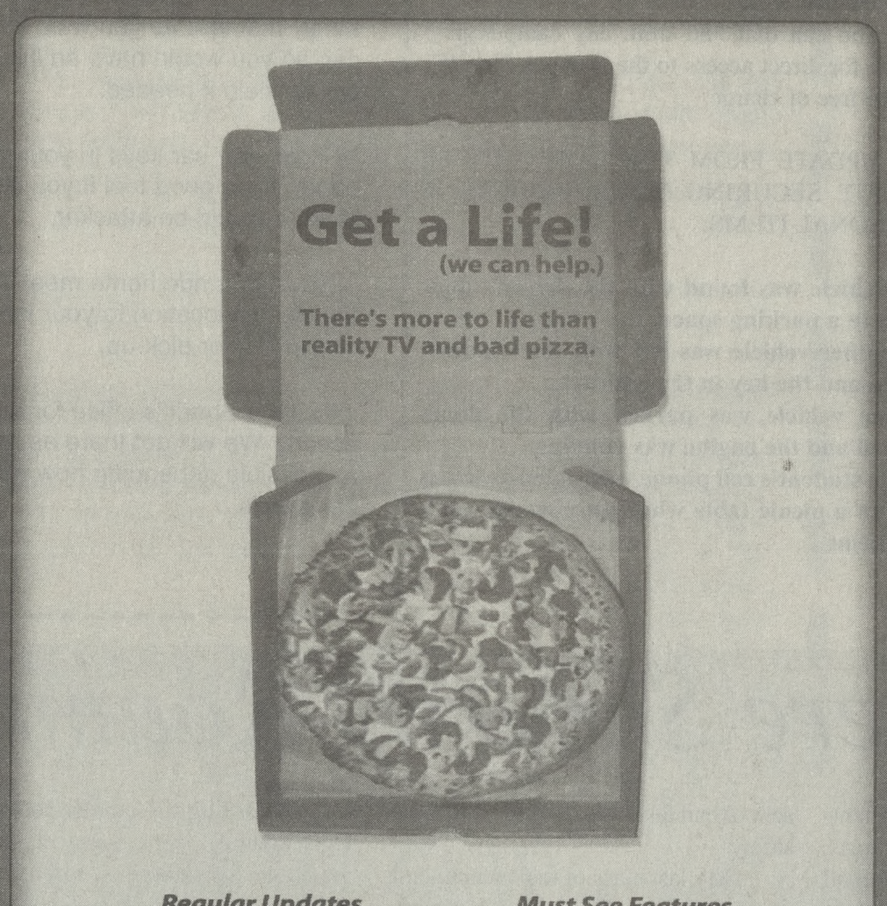

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Isn't it about time you brought something to the conversation.

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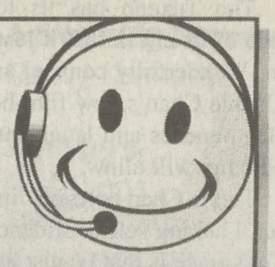

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'Eating Cheap' *continued from page 3*

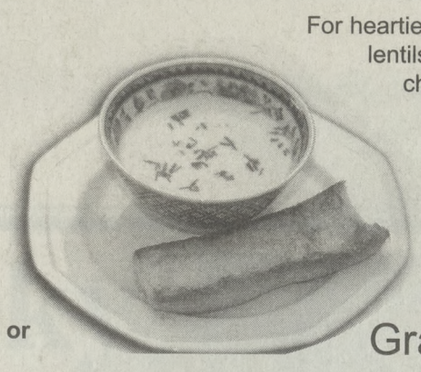
four ears compared to 59¢ each at Ralph's. Cucumbers are five for 99¢; at Ralph's they cost 79¢ each. El Cubano's red bell peppers are 99¢ a pound, at Ralph's they are $2.99 a pound. Grapefruit are five for 99¢ but more than four times as much at Ralph's at 89¢ each; nectarines are 79¢ a pound but cost almost three times more at Ralph's at $1.99 a pound.

Meats are an equally good bargain at El Cubano. A 10-pound bag of chicken legs -- both drumstick and thigh -- is $4.99; there are eight to 10 whole chicken legs in each bag. At Ralph's chicken legs with thighs cost $2.29 a pound, almost five times as much. T-bone steaks cost $4.99 a pound at El Cubano, $8.49 a pound at Ralph's. And thick-cut pork loin chops are a bargain at $2.69 a pound compared to Ralph's $4.99 a pound.

I bought groceries at El Cubano this week to make dinner for four people and spent $8.57. The menu I devised takes advantage of a few fresh crops coming to the end of their growing season -- corn, peppers, and nectarines. I did use a few things from my own house -- the ingredients for the salad dressing, the butter, and seasonings.

I made garlic bread to go along with dinner from soft Cuban sandwich rolls (seven for 99 cents). I served the nectarines for dessert, one half per person, sliced and drizzled with a little brown sugar whipped cream.

Fresh Corn Soup



2 tablespoons butter
1 small onion, diced
1/2 jalapeño pepper, seeded and diced
4 cups corn kernels (5 or 6 ears)*
3 cups chicken broth (vegetarians may substitute vegetable broth or water)
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1/2 cup heavy cream

*I prefer fresh white corn cut from the cob, but frozen corn can be substituted.

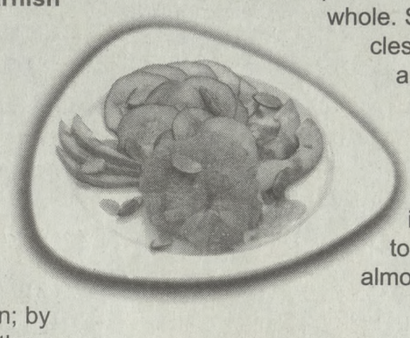
Melt butter over medium heat in a large heavy saucepan, add onion and jalapeño and sauté until tender, about 10 minutes. Stir in corn, broth, and salt, cover and simmer until corn is tender, about 30 minutes. Purée soup in batches in a blender until smooth. Return to pot; add cumin and cream, gently reheat soup over low heat. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

For heartier soup add 1 cup cooked lentils or 2 cups shredded cooked chicken. Serve sprinkled with chopped fresh chives or cilantro. Serves four.

Cucumber, Avocado, and Grapefruit Salad

1 medium-sized cucumber (8-10 inches)
1 large ripe avocado
1 pink or ruby red grapefruit
Toasted slivered almonds for garnish

Dressing:
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
6 tablespoons olive oil (extra virgin is best)
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper



This salad is all about presentation; by carefully slicing and arranging the three main ingredients on a platter you can serve something that looks like you ordered it at a restaurant; serving the salads on individual plates looks even more impressive.

Measure all of the ingredients for the dressing into a jar or Tupperware container with a lid and shake well. Cut cucumber crosswise into round slices about an eight of an inch thick (there should be about 12 slices per person) and arrange slices around the inner perimeter of a platter. Cut avocado into quarters, discarding pit and removing the peel, and slice each quarter into six slices. Fan avocado slices out from center of platter, just slightly overlapping cucumbers. Slice peel off grapefruit as you would off a cantaloupe, leaving the peeled fruit whole. Slice into eight circles crosswise and arrange in center of platter.

Drizzle salad with well-shaken dressing; garnish with toasted slivered almonds. Serves four.

'Teach-In' *continued from page 1*

pointed out that "The speaker chosen by the ASU to 'represent the faculty (did not express) the position of the Faculty Association, because neither the Faculty Association nor the Academic Senate have taken any position on this issue, and it is highly unlikely that we will." Although Marzillier will be on the panel, O'Regan declined the invitation.

"What I said on 9/11 stands for itself," O'Regan said, admitting that Marzillier would have no reason to personally attack him. "The situation is dealt with. I don't want to be a part of (the teach-in)."

In addition to Marzillier, history instructor Dr. Farrell Broslowsky, speech instructor Jack Sterk, and ASU President Samy Kbushyan will be on the panel, but the Faculty Association is still searching for a participant who strongly supports the Bush Administration.

"We want this program to be as balanced as humanly possible," said Marzillier.

According to Broslowsky, teach-ins have been held at Valley to discuss every war or foreign crisis that the United States has faced since the Vietnam war, from conflicts with Central America to the Persian Gulf war. Broslowsky, who participated in Valley's first teach-in in 1965 to discuss the Vietnam war, expressed his hopes that students today realize the importance of the issues at hand as much as they did 37 years ago.

"It was a brutally stormy night," Broslowsky said. "And yet the gym was filled with people who wanted to discuss that subject."

The teach-in will be held in Monarch Hall. A time has not yet been announced.

'Custodians' *continued from page 1*

"industrial leave" until they are fit to return. While on leave, they still draw pay and their position is still considered filled. Thus, replacements cannot be hired to satisfy the void, causing more work for those who remain. This policy also applies to employees on vacation and sick leave. In days past, substitutes could be hired, but today, "We don't have the money to call in extra people to do extra work," said Ogney.

Some custodians say the volume of work is "ridiculous." They said they take pride in their work and hate being maligned when they're unable to do it correctly. They also blame some instructors for messy classrooms, in part because they don't enforce a 'no food or drink' policy.

La Vergne Rosow of the English department said, "It's nice to say that you can't allow adults to drink coffee (in class), but you can't police 18,000 students." She also said that due to the lack of adequate air conditioning in the bungalows, forbidding students to have cold drinks is not feasible. She added that the campus restroom situation is so bad that she has students who refuse to use them, and that this affects learning.

"Walk in to the men's restrooms and smell," said student Mike Loren. He added that some restroom stalls need latches on the doors.

The night shift is responsible for cleaning the campus restrooms, and because of their schedule, they can only tend to the problem after the school day is over.

"I generally think the custodial staff does an excellent job of keeping track of a campus this size with all of these students," said Sterk, admitting that the humanities building is kept in relatively good condition. "But why are there cobwebs in the faculty restrooms?"

Not all students and faculty berate the custodians. " I think they do a pretty good job," said student David Gilbert. "It's not like they're slacking off. I always see them working." Custodians say that they appreciate students and faculty who thank them for their efforts.

"We're trying our best to serve the Valley College students and give them a clean, sanitary and safe environment," said Long, "which is a never-ending and unappreciated job."

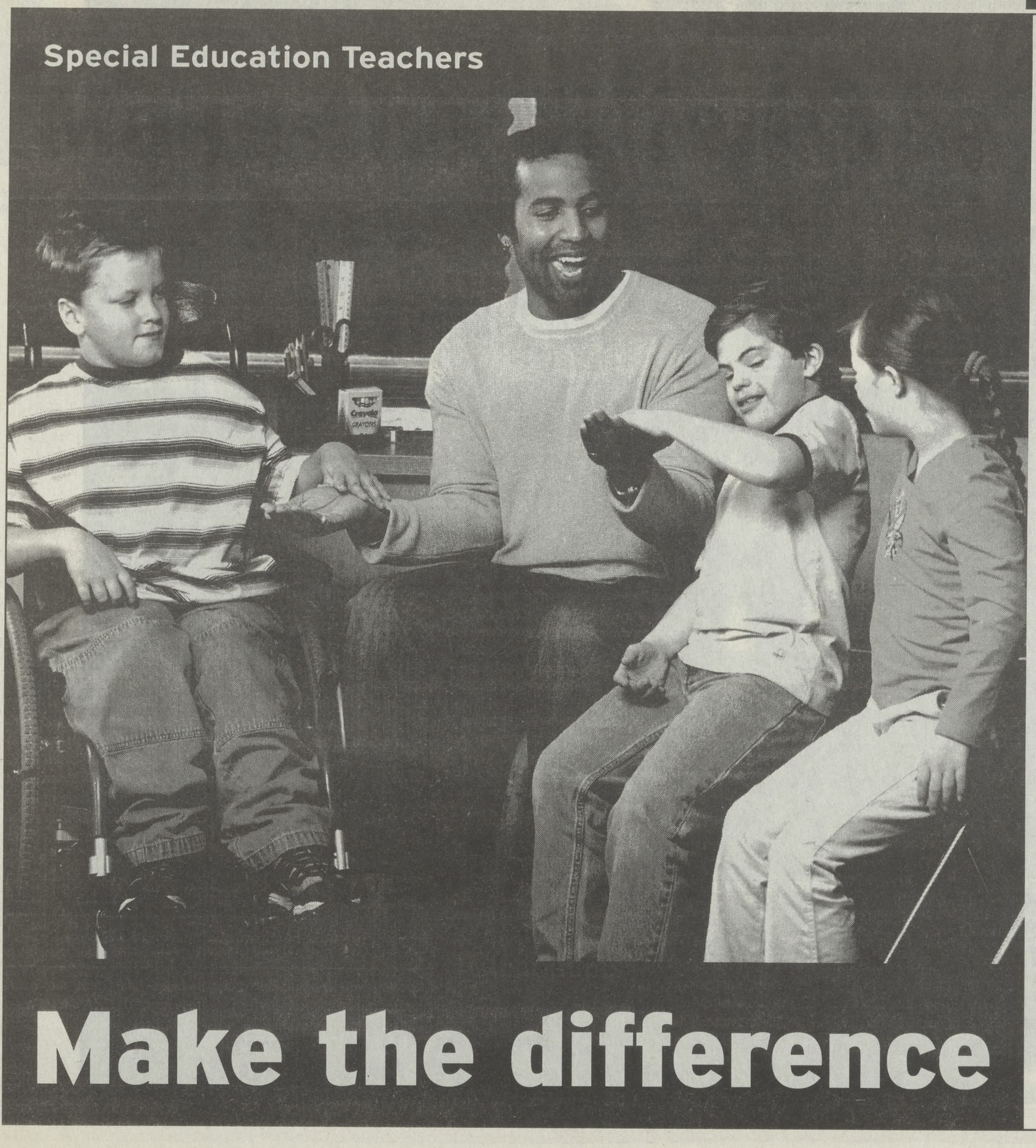
'Union' *continued from page 1*

said Waddell. She added that the new agreement is likely to centralize as opposed to decentralize power, and small department chairs stand to lose compensation for their additional work, which she is against. However, overall she said that it's a "good contract" that protects faculty and provides for a "positive work environment.

"The Los Angeles collective bargaining agreement has been historically and is now the gold standard in the state," said Waddell. "Our protection for hourly rate is the envy of many districts. The founders of the union worked hard to get us to this point."

Former Gang Members Attending LAVC

We would like to hear your stories for the upcoming publication of the *Crown* magazine at semester's end. Interviews can be completely anonymous and off the record, if so desired. Come to the Business/Journalism room 114 or call us at (818) 947-2576. Ask for News Editor Ben Jauron.



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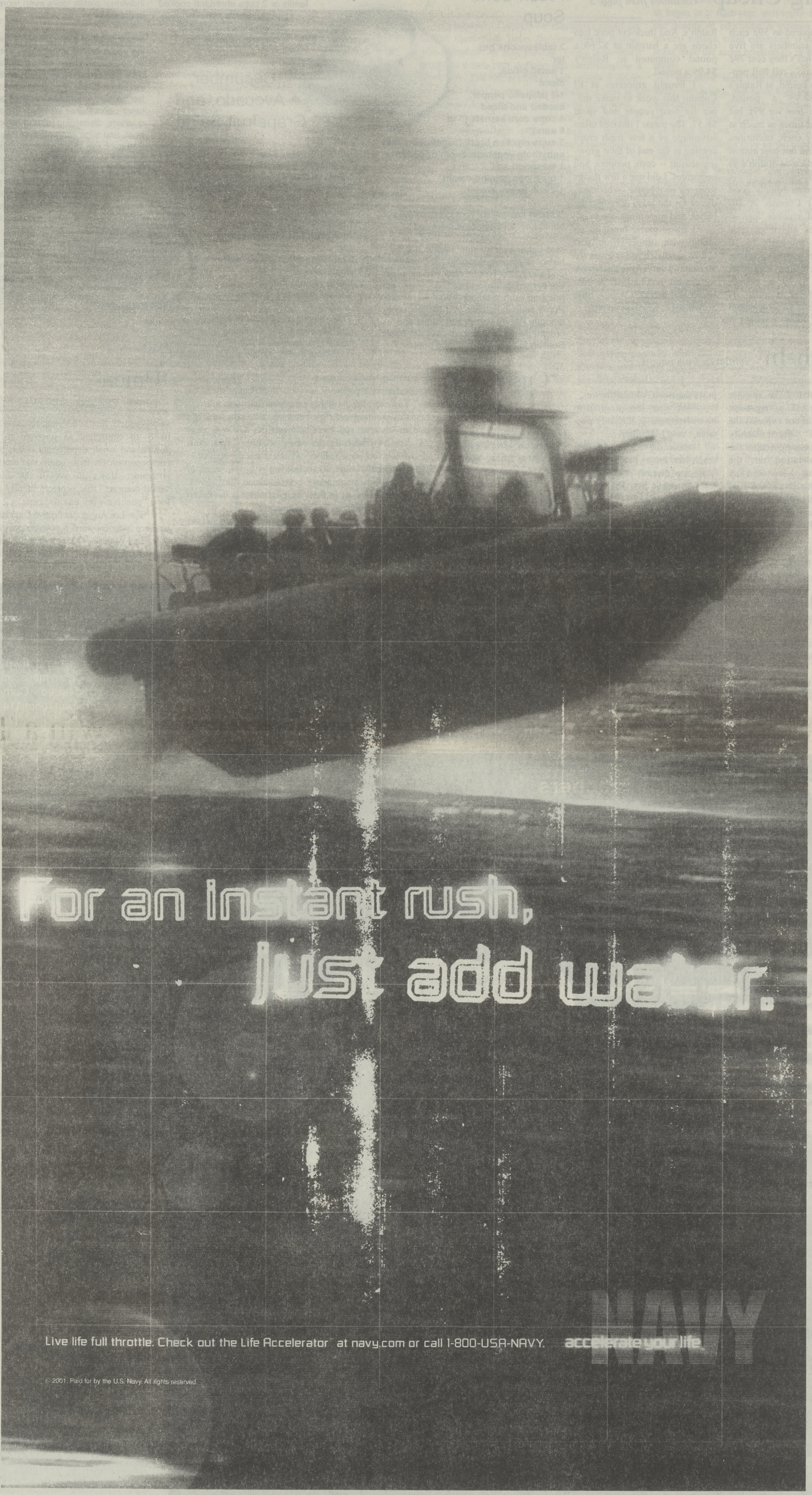
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Seven Proves Lucky for Lady Monarchs

BY BOB TEICHMANN
STAR REPORTER

After losing their first six games, the Lady Monarchs' soccer team was in search of a small miracle. Game seven proved to be their lucky number.

The first season of Lady Monarchs' soccer now has a win on record after defeating Canyons 1-0 on Friday in game one of conference play.

Monarch Charlene Patton was the only player to score, but it wasn't easy.

"They keep pushing me out of the way to get the ball," she said after being shoved towards the bench.

The game was not without its bumps, bruises, and hard contact. The captain of Canyons was kicked hard on the ankle when the Monarchs tried to prevent her from scoring. She remained on the floor, crying in pain, for several minutes.

Coach Alberto Bru congratulated the team on their first victory of the year.

"We did what was asked," he said to the players. "When it came time for you to do it, you were there."

The players were glad that the victory came when it did. For some, it seemed as if it would never happen.

"It's about time," said goalie Liz Baumwirt after the game.

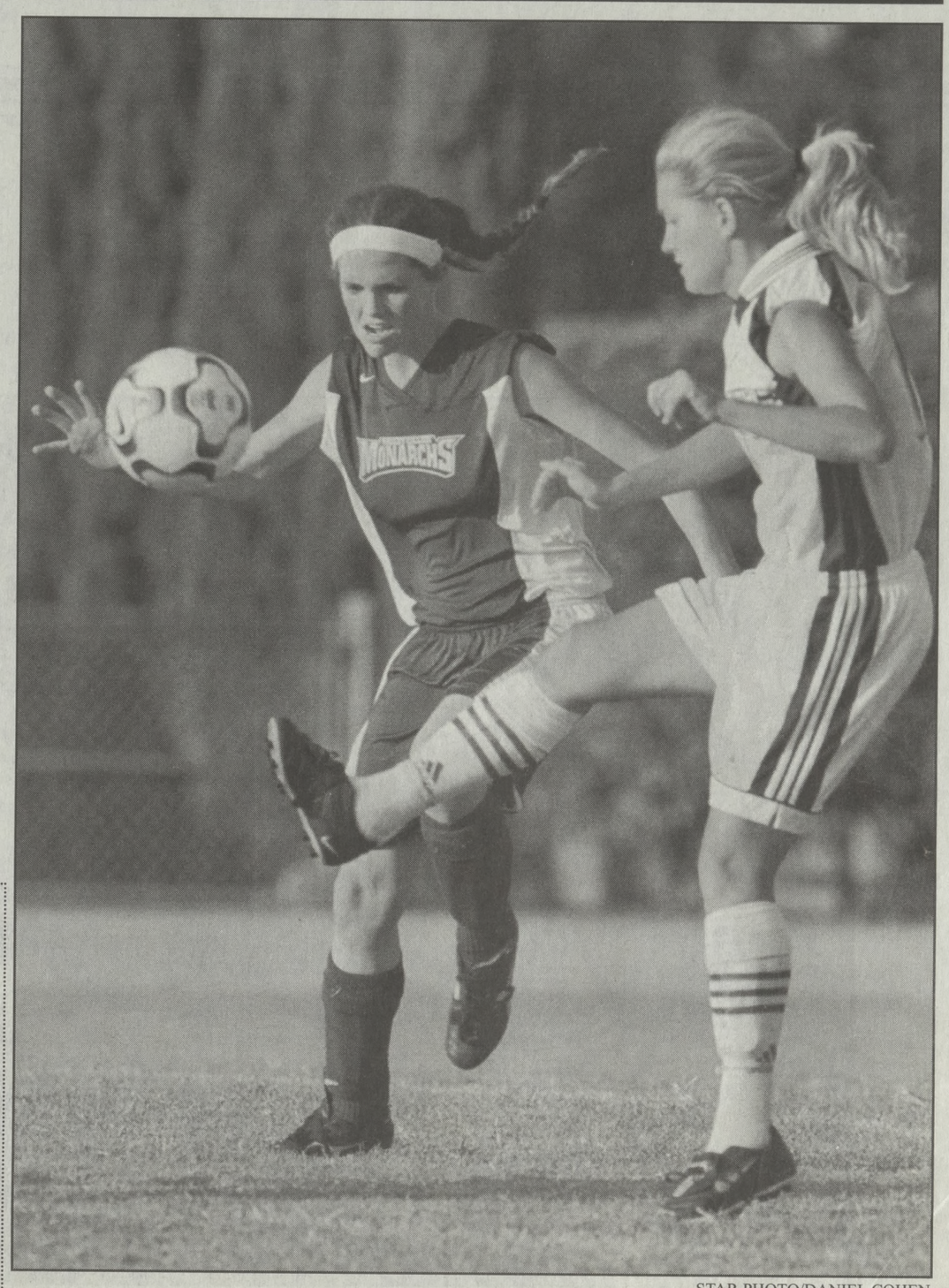
The one idea the coaches are still trying to stress to the team is that there is room for improvement.

"What hurts is our commitment to training," said Bru.

The next several teams that the Lady Monarchs will face all have excellent records.

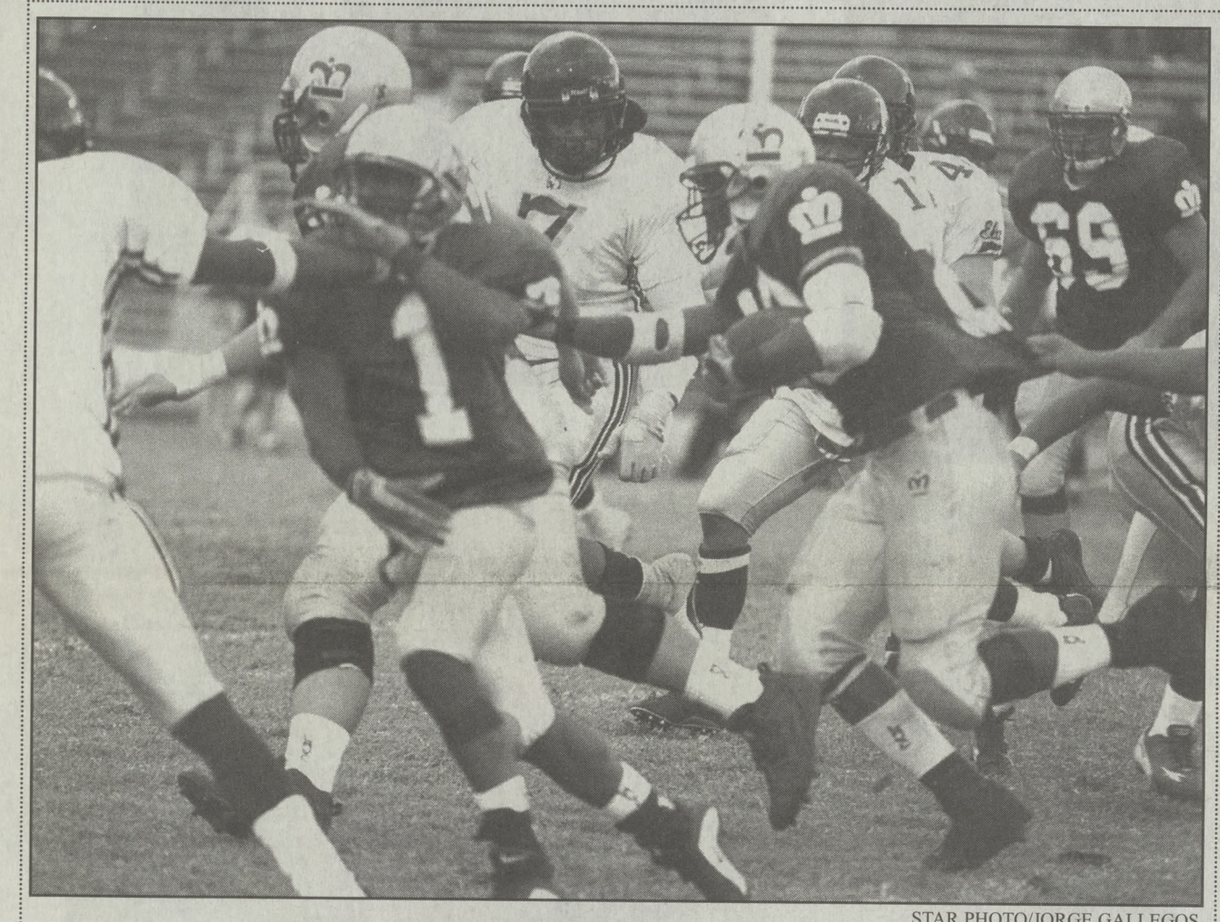
"We have teams we can beat," said Coach Bru. "You look at these teams with even great records...we can beat'em."

The Lady Monarchs have a chance to win again when they host Pierce College on Friday.



STAR PHOTO/DANIEL COHEN

A Monarch's forward fights for the ball in their first victory against Canyons. The game was played at Monarch Stadium on Sept. 27.



STAR PHOTO/JORGE GALLEGOS

Monarch's wide reciever Sammie Worthy makes his way through East L.A. defense in a match won by the Monarchs 31-20. The game was played at Monarch Stadium on Sept. 28.

Tennis Star Yet to Win a Title

BY CHRISTINA GRATE
STAR REPORTER

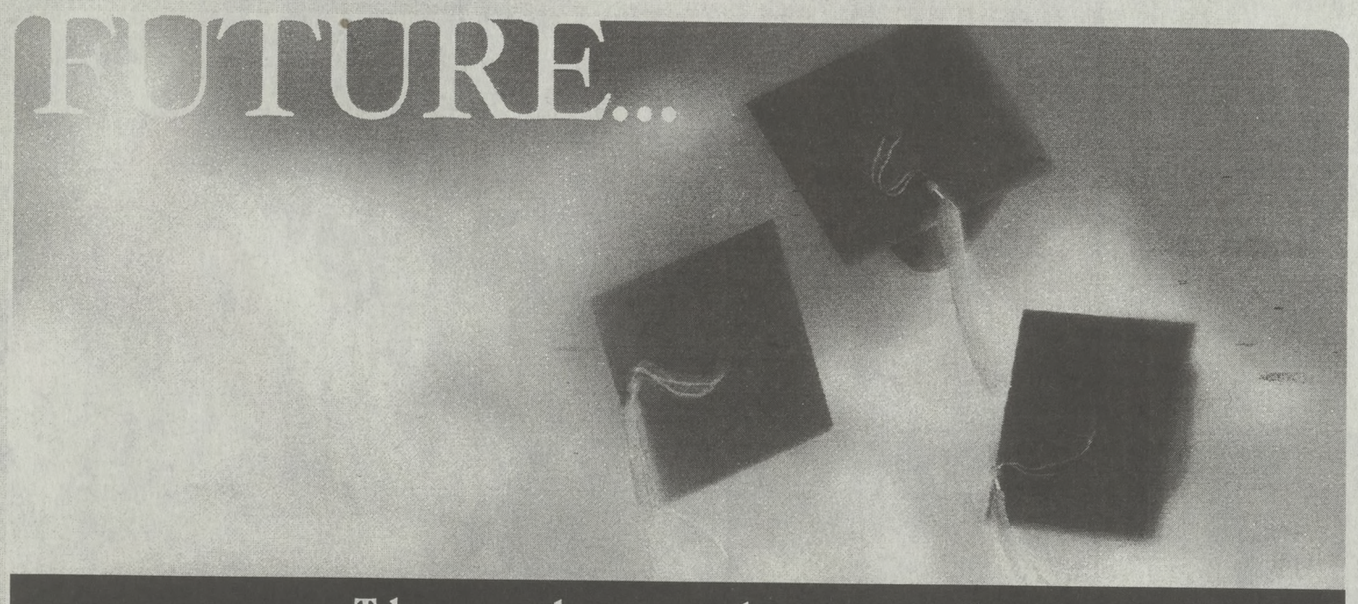
Russian tennis player Anna Kournikova has had all the opportunities in the world to win a title in her professional career but has not yet done so. Kournikova has been playing professionally since 1995, and with multi-million dollar sponsorships from Addidas, Lycos and Omega, she can afford to train with the best coaches and in the best locations.

Throughout Kournikova's career, she has only won two singles and some matches with the ITF Women's Circuit, but has had no wins in the Sanex WTAO Tour Singles. With 15 Sanex WTAO Tour Doubles wins under her belt, it seems that Kournikova can only win when she's playing doubles with another top player.

In recent years, Kournikova is most known for her on-and-off relationships with top athletes and celebrities. Her latest "love interest" is Latin superstar Enrique Iglesias. Having denied any relationship, last week they arrived hand in hand at MTV's Video Music Awards and posed for cameras. She seemed more "in love" with cameras than with Iglesias. Many have found themselves asking if she really is in this career for the tennis anymore. It seems that she concentrates more on being in the public eye than on her game.

Kournikova is number 38 in the top 100 singles and number eight in the top 100 doubles. How can someone who has never won a title be in that position? Some people say it's because of her sponsorships, but how can her sponsors continue to support her if she doesn't win a title? The only logical explanation is because of her sex appeal and the flaunting her celebrity status.

There are many athletes who are in need of sponsorships, and they are really applied to their sport. Some of the money going to Kournikova, who has won $3 million in tournament prizes, might be better used by these athletes. Hopefully, some public pressure on Kournikova will urge her to buckle up and win herself a title, so people will take her more seriously as a tennis player.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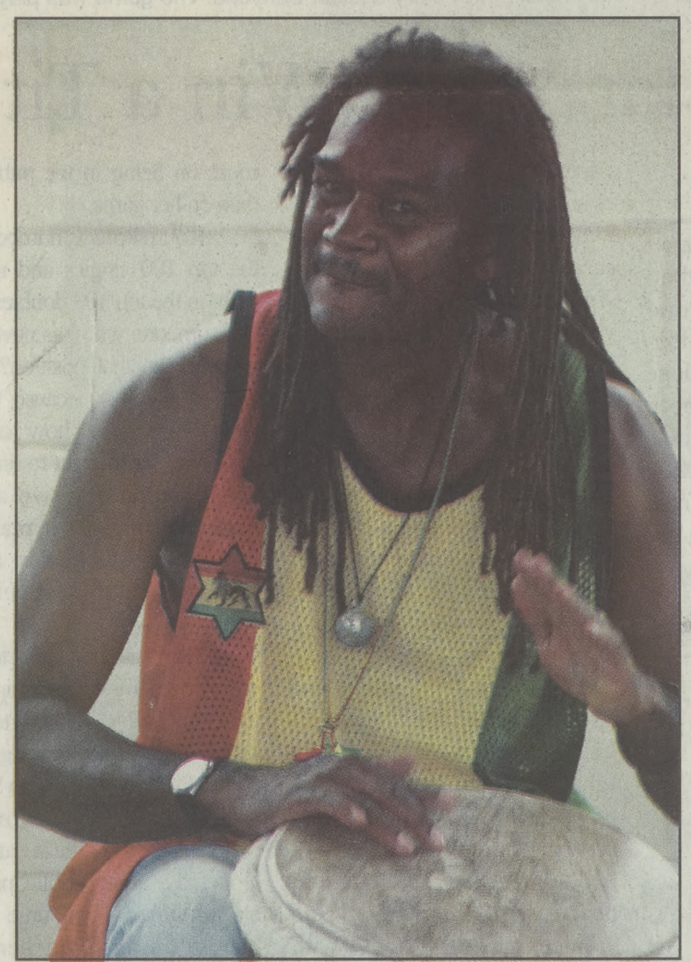
10-4 Pierce @ 4:00 p.m. @ home

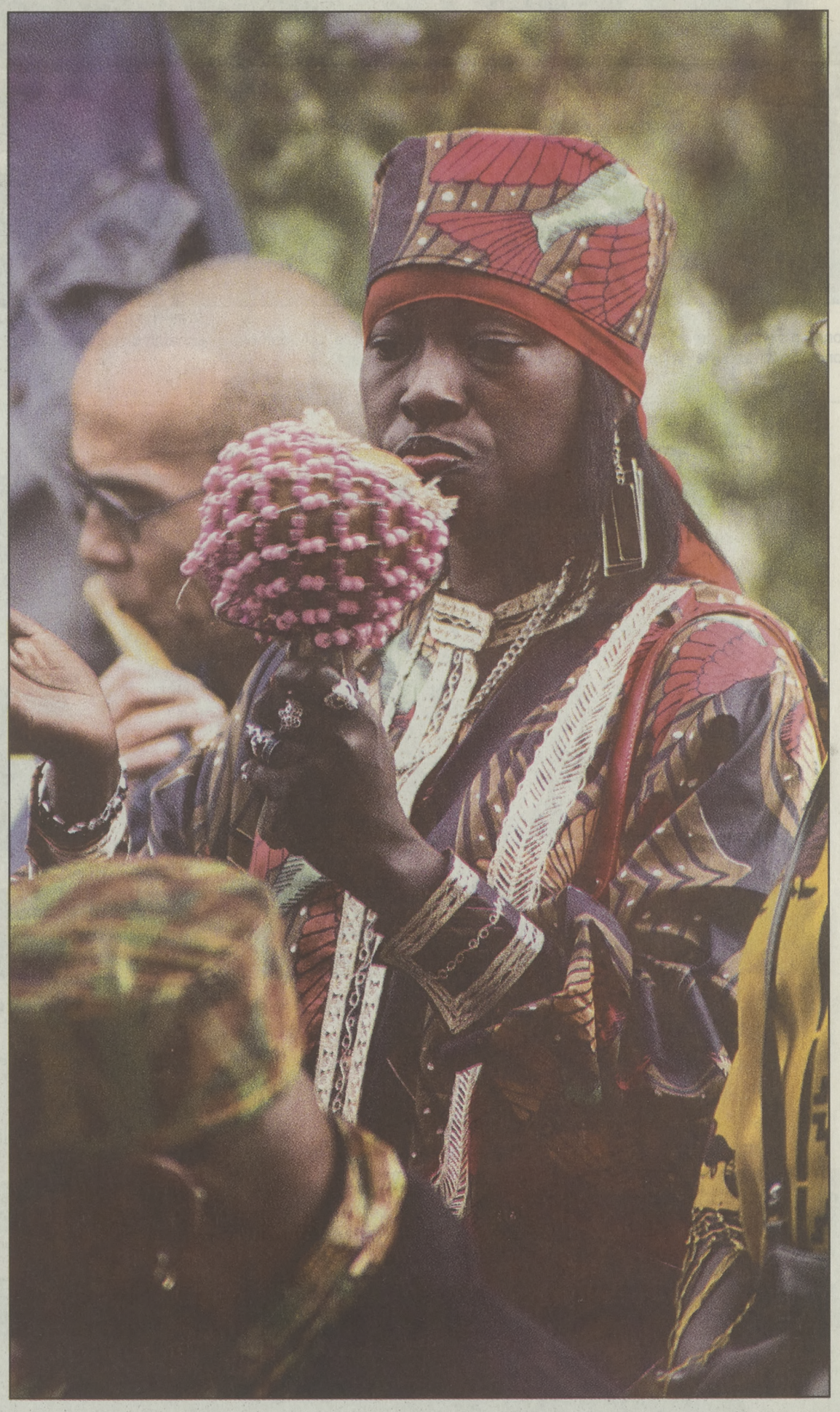
Women's Water Polo
10-4,5 - Ventura Tourney @ all day @ Ventura

Men's Water Polo
10-4,5 - Citrus Tourney @ 3:00 p.m. @ Citrus/Mt. SAC

8 Gallery

Spirit of the Drum



The beauty of the human spirit shined through and peace filled the air during the 21st Annual Watts Towers Day of the Drum Festival, which was held Sept. 28 and 29. The event is held in conjunction with the 2002 World Festival of Sacred Music.

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